Interest Litigations. Now they have got certain redressal of their grievances and for this House to negate this, would be totally unfair and unjustified. Therefore, I submit that the Bill should not be allowed to be introduced.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to say one thing. I have not received any notice from your side. I do not know whether the hon. Speaker has received it or not.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA: No notice is required for this. My submission is that the House is not competent to pass this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, do you have to say anything on this?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (SOUTH DELHI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order that such objections as has been raised by the hon. Members cannot be raised at the time in Introduction of the Bill. The introduction of the Bill can be opposed from the legislative competence's point of view. In my opinion the Parliament is fully competent. Please be instrumental in the introduction of the Bill. The hon. members can raise objections at consideration state of the Bill. I shall also like to state at that time only. After that the Government would take any decision. But at the introduction state, the Bill cannot be opposed other than legislative competence issues. Therefore, please, Introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Actually, he started saying that this House is not competent but said something else lateron.

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Sir, as the hon. Member has said.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right, leave it.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to validate certain out-of-turn allotments made by the Central Government."

The motion was adopted.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.14 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT RE: OUT-OF-TURN ALLOTMENT OF GOVERNMENT RESIDENCES (VALIDATION) ORDINANCE

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Out-of-turn Allotment of Government Residence (Validation) Ordinance, 1997.

1. The hon. Supreme Court of India *vide* its Judgement and Order dated the 23rd December, 1996 in Writ Patition (Civil) No. 585 of 1994, directed, *inter alia*, that the out-of-turn allottees who secured Type III and above Government accommodation during the period of 1991-1995, except those whose names were included erroneously, who were given allotment on medical grounds within the existing policy, would face eviction in case their date(s) of priority was not covered. They were also required to pay enhanced licence fee at two or, as the case may be, three times of the normal licence fee for the period of occupation on out-of-turn basis. The hon. Court further directed that alternate accommodation of lower type shall be provided, wherever admissible, only after the enhanced licence fee was deposited within a period of two months of the notice. The Court laid down specific time frame for preparation of revised list of out-of-turn allottees facing eviction/ shifting to alternate accommodation and liable to pay enhanced licence fee. This was to be done within two months, i.e. by the 23rd February, 1997 and the allottees liable for eviction/payment of enhanced licence fee were to be served individual notices within thirty days thereafter, rquiring them to vacate the premises within ninety days of the notice. Since such notices were issued between the 16th March, 1997 to the 22nd March, 1997 the evictions were to take place from the 23rd June, 1997 onwards.

2. In the wake of the notices issued, a large number of representations were received from various quarters including leaders of almost all political Parties for taking a humanitarian approach in the matter and to save the allottees from eviction. In this context, an All-Parties Meeting of the Leaders of various political Parties in Parliament was held on the 15th May, 1997 in which a unanimous view was taken that such allottees should be saved from eviction.

3. As Parliament was not in Session and immediate action was required to be taken in view of the fact that the date of eviction, i.e., the 23rd June, 1997 was fast approaching, the President was pleased to promulgate the Out-of-turn Allotment of Government Residences (Validation) Ordinance, 1997 (Ord. 14 of 1997) on the 21st June, 1997.